

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 003526

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 7 EA PRESS SUMMARY

### 1. INDOCHINA

EMBASSY SAIGON SAYS POLITICAL OFFICER WILLIAM E. BENNETT  
KILLED SATURDAY BY EXPLOSION IN STORAGE ROOM OF RESIDENCE  
AT TUY HOA. AIR AMERICA SAYS JAMES A. RAWLINGS, SUPPLY  
OFFICER AT NHA TRANG CONGEN, WAS ABOARD LEASED C-123  
THAT DISAPPEARED IN BAD WEATHER FRIDAY ON DALAT-NHA  
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TO DIE VIOLENTLY IN SVN SINCE DEC 15, 1973, ACCORDING  
EMBASSY (UPI, BALTO N-A 1/6). ALSO ABOARD C-123 WERE  
THREE CHINESE CREWMEN, FOUR VIET EMPLOYEES OF CONGEN  
NHA TRANG, AND FILIPINO CONTRACTOR (PHINQ; UPI, NYDN).

INVESTIGATORS SAID BENNETT MAY HAVE BEEN VICTIM EITHER OF GANGSTERS OR VC TERRORISTS WHO PLANTED BOOBY TRAP IN HIS FOOD STOREROOM (UPI WP, NYDN).

US AIRCRAFT CARRIER ENTERPRISE LEFT SUBIC BAY FOR UNDISCLOSED DESTINATION, ACCORDING PENTAGON SPOKESMAN WHO REFUSED TO CONFIRM OR DENY REPORT THAT SHIP HEADED FOR SVN. US EMBASSY SAIGON SPOKESMAN DISMISSED REPORT AS "FABRICATION," AND OBSERVERS NOTED THAT US WARSHIPS OFTEN CRUISE SOUTH CHINA SEA (REUTER WASHINGTON). PREVIOUSLY, UPI QUOTED SAIGON DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAYING ENTERPRISE

WOULD ARRIVE ON VN COAST TODAY.

MIL OFFICIALS SAY NVA FORCES OVERRAN LAST SIZABLE GVN POSITION IN PHUOCBINH CITY; SMALL UNITS STILL FIGHTING IN AND AROUND PROVINCIAL CAPITAL, BUT PROVINCE MIL AND ADMIN HQ CAPTURED (WP, GLOBE). FIELD OFFICERS REPORTED COMMUNIST GUNNERS LOWERED 130-MM GUNS AND FIRED DIRECTLY INTO COMMAND BUNKER (UPI, NYDN).

NVA TROOP AND TANK ASSAULT ON PHUOC BINH SET SECTIONS OF CITY ABLAZE, INFLICTED HEAVY CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, ACCORDING SAIGON COMMAND. WESTERN ANALYSTS SAY THEY VIEW CURRENT COMMUNIST DRIVE AS START OF SIX-MONTH MIL OFFENSIVE DESIGNED TO GAIN POLITICAL CONCESSIONS FROM SAIGON AND WASHINGTON. DESPITE SCALE OF FIGHTING, ANALYSTS DO NOT EXPECT 1975 CAMPAIGN TO APPROACH FEROCITY OF TET '68 OR EASTER '72 DRIVES. WESTERN ANALYSTS SEE THREE BASIC OBJECTIVES TO COMMUNIST DRIVE IN SVN: TO COUNTER GVN PACIFICATION PROGRAM, TO TRY KEEP POPULATION IN COMMUNIST ZONES AND ENGAGED IN PRODUCTION, AND TO IMPOSE HEAVY CASUALTIES ON SVN ARMY. COMMUNIST COMMAND HOPES MAXIMUM MIL PRESSURE WILL FORCE THIEU OUT OF OFFICE, ACCORDING WESTERN DIPLOMATS. ANTI-THIEU NON-COMMUNIST VIET NEUTRALISTS BELIEVE PART OF HANOI STRATEGY IS DESIGNED TO FORCE UNCLASSIFIED

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CHANGE OF US POLICY IN SVN, INCLUDING WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPORT FOR THIEU THAT WOULD FORCE HIM TO "STEP ASIDE" (AP, SUN).

NYT'S MARKHAM IN SAIGON DESCRIBES CRUMBLING OF PHUOC BINH'S DEFENSES AND ENSUING CONFUSION. NOTES THIEU MET WITH TOP MIL COMMANDERS TO DECIDE WHETHER TO GIVE ALL-OUT SUPPORT TO PHUOC BINH OR WRITE IT OFF, AND THAT NO NEW REINFORCEMENTS SENT IN BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO ONE ACCOUNT, TO DO SO WOULD WEAKEN SAIGON'S DEFENSES. COMMENTS THAT CAPTURE OF PROVINCE CAPITAL IS PRESTIGE VICTORY FOR COMMUNISTS, BUT PHUOC LONG PROVINCE AND CAPITAL ARE OF "NEGLECTABLE MILITARY

IMPORTANCE."

NVN IN RADIO BROADCAST DEFENDS ATTACK ON PHUOC BINH AS "LEGITIMATE MEASURES IN DEFENSE OF THE PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT" THAT IT CHARGED HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY VIOLATED BY GVN (CHITRIB). HANOI BROADCAST ALSO ACCUSED FORD ADMIN OF MAINTAINING NETWORK OF US OFFICERS IN COMMAND OF ARVN, AND SAID US MUST BEAR MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY" FOR "CRIMES" COMMITTED BY SVN FORCES (AP, SUN). NHAN DAN ACCUSES THIEU OF SENDING TROOPS AND TANKS TO COMB PHUOC LONG PROVINCE

AND OTHER REGIONS TO BURN RICE HARVESTS THAT ARVN COULD NOT SEIZE. PAPER ALSO SAID OPERATIONS RECENTLY LAUNCHED BY "FORCES OF LIBERATION" CONSTITUTE "LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF RIPOSTE" IN DEFENSE OF C-F AGREEMENTS; THIS APPEARED REPLY TO STATE DEPT. SPOKESMAN ANDERSON WHO LAST WEEK CONDEMNED NVA OFFENSIVE IN PHUOC LONG AS MOST SERIOUS C-F VIOLATION YET (AFP, NYT).

PHINQ AND NYT CARRY AP WIREPHOTO OF DEMONSTRATORS BURNING EFFIGY OF VC SOLDIER AT ICCS HQ IN SAIGON IN PROTEST AGAINST FIGHTING AT PHUOC BINH.

MARKHAM (NYT) NOTES VC ROCKETS STRUCK SAIGON'S OUTSKIRTS FOR FIRST TIME IN OVER THREE YEARS, IN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON LARGE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY. DESCRIBES CIVILIANS KILLED AND WOUNDED. ADDS THAT VC HAVE HIT, ELSEWHERE ON FRINGES OF CAPITAL OVER PAST MONTH, USUALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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AT POLICE STATIONS OR BRIDGES, AND THAT COMMUNIST GUNNERS HAVE BEEN FIRING INTO VICINITY OF BIEN HOA AIR BASE, TAKING MOUNTING TOLL OF CIVILIANS. WP, AP (BALTO N-A 1/6, SUN) AND CHITRIB ALSO REPORT SHELLING OF SAIGON AND BIEN HOA.

JACK ANDERSON (WP) RECALLS STORY HE WROTE IN MID-DEC ABOUT VIET ORPHAN WHO DIED BEFORE XMAS; MEASLES VACCINE THAT MIGHT HAVE SAVED HER WAS SITTING IN WAREHOUSE IN US BECAUSE GOVT REGULATIONS AND RED TAPE KEPT IT FROM BEING SHIPPED. SAYS WORD RECEIVED FROM FRIENDS OF CHILDREN, INC THAT AID GRANTED ADDITIONAL 10,000 DOLS TO HELP GET SUPPLIES TO CHILDREN. QUOTES EXEC DIR OF FRIENDS OF CHILDREN THAT EXTRA MONEY ALLEVIATES SOME IMMEDIATE SHIPPING PROBLEMS, AND THAT ORGANIZATION HOPES FOR EVEN MORE DRAMATIC RESULTS THROUGH "GRANTING OF MILITARY AIRLIFTS FOR ORPHANAGE SUPPLIES FOR VIETNAM."

LAT'S MCARTHUR (1/5) IN SAIGON REPORTS INDOCHINA RESOURCE CENTER PUBLICATION'S BLISTERING ATTACK ON CHURCH AND PRIVATE GROUPS DOING HUMANITARIAN

WORK IN VN, WHICH CHARGED THEM WITH MISDEEDS RANGING FROM SELLING BABIES TO HELPING US SPIES. CITED RC CHURCH, LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF, METHODIST CHURCH, NATL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, TOM DOOLEY FOUNDATION, SALVATION ARMY AND OTHERS. MCARTHUR SEES PUBLICATION CLEARLY IMPLYING THAT ANY HUMANITARIAN AID AMOUNTS TO CORRUPT, SLAVISH AND ANTIREVOLUTIONARY" IN VN. ATTACK, ENTITLED "THE POLITICS OF CHARITY," WAS DIRECTED AT ALL VOLAGS OPERATING IN SVN. COMMENTS

THAT MOST VOLAGS ARE MORE-OR-LESS ANTI-COMMUNIST, THOUGH SOME WALK "POLITICAL TIGHTROPE." OPINES THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT ABSENCE OF 32 VOLAGS AFFILIATED WITH PRIVATE VOLAG COUNCIL, PLUS DOZEN NONAFFILIATED GROUPS, WOULD PLACE CONSIDERABLE STRAIN ON SVN AND DRAW ON RESOURCES NOW USED IN WAGING WAR -- AND GVN WOULD HAVE LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO LET MANY PROGRAMS DROP. RESOURCE CENTER ALSO CONDEMNS VOLAGS FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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REFUSING AID TO NVN OR VC. MCARTHUR NOTES HANOI HAS SHOWN NO WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THIS TYPE HELP.

COMMUNISTS SHELL OUTSKIRTS OF PP (AP, BALTO N-A 1/6). GKR TROOPS REPORTEDLY BROKE THROUGH INSURGENT BLOCKADE TO RELIEVE 400-MAN FORCE TRAPPED ON MEKONG EAST BANK TWO MILES FROM PP (WP). REBELS PUSH WEEK-LONG ATTACK ON CAPITAL IN WHAT OBSERVERS SAY IS DRY-SEASON OFFENSIVE PARALLELING COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE IN VN (AP, SUN). CHITRIB CARRIES UPI TELEPHOTO PICTURE OF WOUNDED GKR SOLDIER ON MEKONG EAST BANK. ; NYT'S SCHANBERG IN PP REPORTS COMMUNISTS APPARENTLY OPENING FRONT SOUTH OF CAPITAL, WHILE FRONTS ON NW, NORTH AND EAST WITHIN TEN MILES OF CITY STILL INVOLVE HEAVY FIGHTING. REFUGEES POUR INTO PP AND ROCKET STRIKE NEAR AIRPORT DID LITTLE DAMAGE BUT UNDERScored ITS VULNERABILITY. NOTES PP HAS BEEN UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE BEFORE AND THERE DOES NOT SEEM IMMEDIATE DANGER ON PANIC, THOUGH MANY PEOPLE ARE JUMPY. SITUATION HAS BEEN STABILIZED BY FANK, BUT REMAINS DIFFICULT, ESPECIALLY NORTH OF CAPITAL WHERE REBELS HOLD MANY BRIDGES ON ROAD AND SEVERAL GKR OUTPOSTS ARE ISOLATED. SCHANBERG OBSERVES REBELS CONTROL STRETCH OF MEKONG SE OF CITY -- DANGER TO RIVER CONVOYS THAT ARE MAIN SOURCE OF GKR SUPPLY. QUOTES WESTERN MIL SOURCES' OPINION THAT ATTACK ON MEKONG EAST BANK WAS LARGELY DIVERSIONARY MOVE BY ENEMY TO DRAW FANK AWAY FROM MORE IMPORTANT FRONTS. SAYS NO FIRM INTELLIGENCE ON NUMBER OF COMMUNIST-LED TROOPS IS AVAILABLE, REBEL ATTACKS HAVE BEEN WELL COORDINATED, AND THEIR TROOPS HAVE HELD TOGETHER

DESPITE HIGH CASUALTIES. SCHANBERG OPINES THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT "THIS IS A SERIOUS OFFENSIVE."

AFP STOCKHOLM QUOTES SIHANOUK ON SWEDISH TV INTERVIEW THAT SIRIK MATAK AND SOSTHENE FERNANDEZ HAVE OFFERED TO JOIN FUNK. PRINCE SAYS TWO HAVE SENT SECRET MESSAGES TO HIM THROUGH FRIENDS BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED "PERMISSION" OF US, THAT CONSTITUTES OBSTACLE TO PEACE IN CAMBODIA. SIHANOUK ADDED THAT HE PLANS TO EXPAND HIS GOVT TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES UNCLASSIFIED

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OF RIGHT, BUT NOT "TRAITORS"; NOTED COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF HIS FRONT HAVE NOT YET APPROVED EXPANSION PROPOSAL (WP).

## 2. CHINA

REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS KUANGMING DAILY'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PRC ARCHAEOLOGISTS, CARRYING OUT FIRST EXCAVATIONS IN PEKING SUBURBS, HAVE UNEARTHED GROUP OF TOMBS DATING BACK 3,000 YEARS. EXCAVATIONS REVEALED 32 TOMBS OF CHOU DYNASTY ARISTOCRATS WITH FINELY-WORKED BRONZE WEAPONS, RITUAL VESSELS AND POTTERY.

FOLLOWING PEKING TALKS WITH PRC LEADERS, DUTCH FM SAYS PEKING WANTS TO ESTABLISH "SOME KIND OF PERMANENT CONTACT" WITH EEC (WP).

BALT N-A (AP) AND S-N ITEMS NOTE NY FIRST NATIONAL CITIBANK'S FINDING THAT PRC IN 1974 SUFFERED ITS FIRST BIG INTERNATIONAL BUDGET DEFICIT -- ESTIMATED AT 735 MILLION DOLLARS -- DUE LARGELY TO CHINESE DEMAND FOR US PRODUCTS (JAN. 6).

JOC'S STRAUSS, IN HK, CITES NCNA ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PRC OIL PRODUCTION INCREASED 20 PERCENT LAST YEAR, BUT INCREASE WAS LESS THAN EXPECTED. STRAUSS SAYS SOME HK OBSERVERS ARE PREPARED TO BELIEVE CHINA'S OIL PRODUCTION EXCEEDED 60 MILLION TONS LAST YEAR, WITH NEW OIL FIELDS OF TACHING, TAKANG AND SHENGLI PRESUMED TO HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR GOALS.

## 3. JAPAN

GOJ AND BUSINESS LEADERS FEAR INDONESIA, SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA MAY IMPOSE RIGID RESTRICTIONS ON SUPER-TANKER PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS OF MALACCA AS CONSEQUENCE OF 237,000 TON SHOWA-MARU RUNNING AGROUND OFF SINGAPORE MONDAY MORNING, AND LEAKING OVER ONE MILLION GALS CRUDE OIL (JOC).

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REUTER TOKYO (CHITRIB, NYDN) SAYS MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC TO RECALL 300,000 COLOR TV SETS SOLD IN US, TO COMPLY WITH HEW INSTRUCTIONS AFTER TESTS DISCLOSED RADIATION LEAKAGE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

TORRANCE REPORTS PURCHASE BY JAPAN INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CORP OF 90,000 MANAGEMENT SHARES IN IMC MAGNETICS, GAINING "PRACTICAL CONTROL" OF

CALIFORNIA-BASED ELECTRONIC COMPONENT PRODUCER.(WSJ).

JOC (TOKYO) NOTES EPA REPORT THAT CURRENT RECESSION MOST INTENSIVE IN DURATION AND IMPACT SINCE 1945, WITH TEXTILES, METALS AND MACHINERY INDUSTRIES HARDEST HIT.

GOJ DECIDES TO DISCONTINUE 21-YEAR OLD SUBSIDY OF INTEREST PAYMENTS BY SHIPOWNERS ON FUNDS RAISED TO BUILD NEW SHIPS, EFFECTIVE APRIL 1 (REUTER, NYT).

WSJ (TOKYO) REPORTS SHIRO KANEKO NAMED PRES OF YASHICA CAMERA CO; MOVE EXPECTED, SINCE HIS FIRM, NISSHO-IWAI, HELPED BAIL OUT AILING CAMERA MAKER TWO MONTHS AGO.

AP TOKYO (SUN) NOTES DEATH AT 92 OF BIRTH CONTROL PIONEER, DR. OGINO, WHO DEVELOPED RHYTHYM SYSTEM.

JOC'S CULLISON IN TOKYO SAYS SIX LARGEST SHIPPING FIRMS EXPECTED TO REPORT ALL-TIME RECORD EARNING OF 266 MILLION DOLS IN JFY 74; RATIONALIZATION OF OPERATIONS, GREATER USE OF FOREIGN FLAG CHARTERS HELPED, BUT BIGGEST FACTOR WAS BIG INCREASE IN TARIFFS BY SHIPPING CONFERENCES.

#### 4. AUSTRALIA

TASMANIA OFFICIALS BELIEVE AT LEAST 14 PERSONS WERE KILLED FOLLOWING BRITISH FREIGHTER'S RAMMING BRIDGE SUNDAY NIGHT (WP).

WHITLAM CONFERS WITH FRENCH PREMIER CHIRAC; SAYS UNCLASSIFIED

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AGREEMENT REACHED TO BURY DIFFERENCES OVER FRENCH ATMOSPHERIC NUKE TESTING IN SOUTH PACIFIC AND TO RESUME FRIENDLY RELATIONS (REUTER, SUN; WP). NYT'S FLORA LEWIS, IN PARIS, SAYS GOA IS APPARENTLY SATISFIED WITH FRENCH ANNOUNCEMENT THAT FURTHER TESTS

WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDERGROUND.

LAT'S LAMB, IN SYDNEY, RECALLS AUSTRALIANS RESPONDED GENEROUSLY AFTER CYCLONE TRACY STRUCK DARWIN. TWO FEDERAL POLITICAL PARTIES "PUT ASIDE THEIR CHILDISH BICKERING LONG ENOUGH TO AGREE" ON FORMATION OF RECONSTRUCTION COMMISSION; THREE-QUARTERS OF DARWIN'S RESIDENTS WERE EVACUATED, CONTRIBUTIONS POURED IN TO AID EVACUEES, AND VOLUNTEER WORKERS LABORED UNTIRINGLY, OFTEN HEROICALLY.

BUT ACCORDING LAMB, CURIOUS TRANSFORMATION OF SPIRIT OCCURRED FEW DAYS AFTER RESCUE MISSION CHIEF GEN. STRETTON DECLARED COUNTRY COULD BECOME GREATEST IN WORLD "IF ONLY WE COULD KEEP THIS SPIRIT GOING WHEN THERE WASN'T A DISASTER." PRESS, PARTICULARLY AFTERNOON SYDNEY JOURNALS, TIRED OF HEROISM STORIES AND BEGAN NIT-PICKING ISOLATED CASES OF INDIVIDUAL MISCONDUCT. DARWIN MAYOR ACCUSED SOME OUT-OF-STATE POLICEMEN OF DRUNKENNESS AND PILFERING, "WITHOUT OFFERING ANY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE"; AND DARWIN SUDDENLY BECAME POLITICAL FOOTBALL AS STATE AND FEDERAL POLITICIANS HAGGLED OVER NAME BY WHICH CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE ALLOCATED.

LAMB SUGGESTS ANSWER MAY BE THAT, EXCEPT IN TIMES OF CRISIS, AUSTRALIA'S ALLEGIANCE TO INDIVIDUAL STATES WILL CONTINUE TO OVERSHADOW ANY NATIONAL KINSHIP TO CANBERRA. ADDS THAT WITH WHITLAM ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE CENTRALIST POWERS, THERE ARE FEW ISSUES IN AUSTRALIA MORE BITTERLY ARGUED THAN THAT OF FEDERALISM VERSUS STATES RIGHTS.

#### 5. KOREA

AP SEOUL (NYT, WP) SAYS SIXTY FOREIGN MISSIONARIES PETITIONED SK SUPREME COURT YESTERDAY FOR OPEN TRIAL OF 22 POLITICAL PRISONERS CONVICTED OF ANTI-GOVT UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTIVITY IN SECRET MILITARY TRIALS LAST YEAR. SEVEN ARE SENTENCED TO DEATH, INCLUDING TWO CHARGED WITH BEING MEMBERS OF DEFUNCT LEFTIST PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY.

#### 6. THAILAND

RTG SPOKESMAN SAYS FORTY PEOPLE DIED IN FLOODS BEGINNING FRIDAY IN SEVEN SOUTHERN PROVINCES, SIX MISSING, AND AT LEAST 1,000 EVACUATED FROM HOMES; CROPS ALSO DAMAGED, AND MANY COWS DROWNED AS FLOOD WATER REACHED NINE FEET IN PLACES (REUTER).

POLICE ANNOUNCE THAT GRENADE THROWN INTO RED CROSS

FAIR IN LAMPANG, 400 MILES NORTH OF BANGKOK, KILLED EIGHT SOLDIERS, WOUNDED SIXTY OTHER PERSONS YESTERDAY.

7. PHILIPPINES

CDN'S DELMUNDO IN MANILA DESCRIBES HOW CITY SHED ITS ROWDY IMAGE, AND IS NOW HAULING IN TOURIST DOLLARS UNDER AGGRESSIVE PROMOTION OF TOURIST SECY JOSE D. ASPIRAS.

8. DIEGO GARCIA

UPI'S SYLVANA FOA INTERVIEWS OUTGOING AMB MOYNIHAN IN NEW DELHI, CITES HIS VIEW THAT US HAS TOUCHED OFF WAVE OF ANTI-AMERICAN FEELINGS BY CLUMSY ATTEMPTS TO BUILD REFUELING BASE IN INDIAN OCEAN. QUOTES HIM SAYING "WE MADE NO EFFORT TO EXPLAIN WHY WE WANTED TO BE THERE" WITH RESULT THAT EVEN AUSTRALIA WAS FORCED TO OPPOSE PROJECT.

9. INDONESIA

REUTER JAKARTA REPORTS SENS SCOTT (VA) AND THURMOND MET SUHARTO TODAY TO DISCUSS INTERNATIONAL SITUATION; THEY MET FM MALIK YESTERDAY TO DISCUSS REGIONAL AFFAIRS.

10. SINGAPORE

JAPANESE 237,000-TON SUPERTANKER, SHOWA-MARU, RAN AGROUND UNCLASSIFIED

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IN HEAVILY-TRAVELED STRAITS OF MALACCA MONDAY, SPILLING MORE THAN ONE MILLION GALS OF CRUDE OIL ABOUT FIVE MILES OFF SINGAPORE. FIREBOATS SPRAYED DETERGENTS TO TRY DISPERSE OILSPILL BEFORE TIDES, CURRENT CARRY IT INTO HARBOR AND ONTO ISLAND'S BEST BEACHES. EMPTY TANKER SET TO TRANSFER OIL FROM GROUNDED TANKER, WHICH NOT BELIEVED IN DANGER OF BREAKING UP (AP, CHITRIB, BALTO N-A; GLOBE). REUTER SAYS DANGER OF OIL SPILL IN NARROW STRAIT HAS LONG BEEN CONCERN OF SINGAPORE, INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA; NOTES HEAVY JAPANESE DEPENDENCE ON UNINTERRUPTED FLOW OF ME OIL THROUGH STRAIT TO MEET ENERGY NEEDS (NYT, SUN). IN TOKYO, SOURCES SAID GOJ WEIGHING POSSIBILITY OF RUSHING OIL FENCES AND CHEMICAL NEUTRALIZERS TO SCENE OF ACCIDENT. SINGAPORE OFFICIALS DECLARED POLLUTION ALERT (UPI, PHINQ).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

11. VIETNAM

JOHN P. ROCHE (BALTO N-A, 1/6) EXPRESSES DISMAY OVER CONGRESS VIRTUALLY TURNING OFF SUPPLY TAP TO VN WHILE COMMUNIST WAREHOUSES, SUPPLIES AND MEN SEEM INEXHAUSTIBLE.



IMPLICIT IN ARRANGEMENT FOR WITHDRAWING US FORCES WAS UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WOULD SUPPLY ADEQUATE MILITARY ASSISTANCE; CONGRESSIONAL PARSIMONY COULD MAKE GRIM JEST OF "VIETNAMIZATION" AND MOCKERY OF "PEACE WITH HONOR."

ROCHE NOTES ARVN HAS FOUGHT WELL, HAVING LET DOWN

THE PROPHETS OF ITS IMMINENT COLLAPSE -- FACT THAT MAY HAVE MOTIVATED SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO USE BUDGETARY AXE. IF ARVN WON'T COMMIT SUICIDE, LOGIC RUNS, LET'S SHOOT IT DOWN AND REGAIN OUR PROPHETIC STATUS. CONSEQUENCES ARE EASY TO PREDICT; USG WILL BETRAY AND DESTROY AN ALLY ALMOST INVISIBLY, INCH BY INCH.

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COMMENTING ON SEIDEN REPORT ON "RAT RACE" IN JAPANESE SCHOOL SYSTEM, SUN SAYS ONLY SURPRISE IS THAT SO LITTLE HAS CHANGED SINCE JAPAN BECAME MODERN INDUSTRIAL NATION. AMERICANS IN JAPAN AFTER WAR WERE ASTOUNDED BY COMPULSIVE STUDY HABITS AT ALL LEVELS, CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF WHICH NOW CONFIRMED BY GOJ REPORT WHICH SAYS EVEN PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS STUDY LATE EVERY NIGHT TO GET AHEAD, EVEN AT COST OF RETARDED SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT.

MANIFOLD ROOTS OF THIS COMPULSION INCLUDE LINGERING FEUDAL IDEAL OF BRINGING HONOR TO FAMILY, CLAN AND NATION, ADMIRABLE, BUT MISPLACED, ZEN STRESS ON DISCIPLINE, AND EAGER ADAPTION OF INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AND STRESS ON HIGH GROWTH RATES. BUT IN VIEW OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRAINS NOW EVIDENT, JAPAN, ALONG WITH WESTERN NATIONS, SHOULD BE DEVELOPING NEW ETHIC STRESSING GROWTH IN HUMAN AND MORAL QUALITIES OVER MATERIAL GROWTH. REVIEWS CULTURAL RESOURCES IN JAPAN TO SUPPORT SHIFT TO MORE JOYFUL, RELAXED AND HUMAN SOCIETY, TO RECOVER FROM LOSS OF BALANCE WHICH -- SUN HOPES -- JAPAN HAS ONLY LOST TEMPORARILY.

13. MONGOLIA

REUTER'S ROBERT EVANS IN ULAN BATOR (CHITRIB) SAYS MPR HOPES TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS WITH US SOON, BUT DECLARES IT FEARS PRC AMBITIONS LIE IN INCORPORATING IT IN EXPANDED CHINESE STATE.

IN INTERVIEW, MPR FM RINCHIN DID NOT DISCUSS DETAILS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH US, BUT DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN

ULAN BATOR SAID THEY UNDERSTOOD MONGOLIANS EXPECTED AGREEMENT SOON. RINCHIN DID TELL EVANS THAT RELATIONS WITH PRC ARE NOT NORMAL, BECAUSE CHINESE LEADERS ARE FOLLOWING POLICY OF "SUPERPOWER CHAUVINISM AND EXPANSIONISM TOWARD OUR COUNTRY." RINCHIN SAID MPR HAD ALWAYS SOUGHT RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING US, ON BASIS OF EQUALITY AND RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY, BUT

US FOR MANY YEARS FOLLOWED POLICY OF ISOLATING  
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MONGOLIA. NOW MPR HAS RELATIONS WITH 70 COUNTRIES AND EXPECTS TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH MANY OTHERS. ALSO SAID THERE WAS NO PEACE ON CHINA BORDER, ALTHOUGH HE GAVE NO INDICATION THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANY SERIOUS MILITARY CLASHES IN AREA.

RINCHIN HELD OUT LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF MAJOR TRADE EXPANSION WITH NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, EVANS NOTING THAT ABOUT 95 PERCENT OF FOREIGN TRADE IS WITH COMECON NATIONS. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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TREASURY  
BIEN HOA  
CAN THO  
DANANG  
HONG KONG NHA TRANG

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CINCPAC  
COGARD  
BUDAPEST BY POUCH  
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